

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 37, line 16, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--Delta inulin is prepared according to the process described in example 3 starting with a raw carbonated inulin extract from chicory roots. Fig. 16 shows the reduction in ash content and monosaccharides, disaccharides and trisaccharides in the filter cake after washing.--

IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly cancel claims 1-29, without prejudice.

Please add new claims 30-59, reading as follows:

--30. A fractionated chicory inulin composition, comprising a crystallized fractionated polydisperse chicory inulin composition which:

(A) is in the form of spherical particles that have a diameter comprised between 1 and 100 μm , and that present radial symmetry, double breaking and perpendicular fade cross under polarised light;

(B) has an average degree of polymerisation (av. DP) which is double or higher than an av. DP of the native polydisperse inulin composition;

(C) contains less than 0.2 wt% of monomers and less than 0.2 wt% of dimers and less than 1.5 wt% of oligomers with a DP < 10;

(D) contains less than 0.2 wt% ash; and

(E) contains no detectable amount of alcohol.

31. The composition according to claim 30, wherein the crystallized fractionated polydisperse chicory inulin composition has an average degree of polymerisation between 20 and 40.